NEWS RELEASE



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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IWRB SETS NEXT MEETING FOR THURSDAY IN COEUR D' ALENE

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho – Oct. 22, 2002 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen – (208) 327-7933

The Idaho Water Resource Board will hold its next regular meeting Thursday (Oct. 24) in Coeur d'Alene, the Board announced today.

Board members will act on a half dozen requests from water user organizations for project financial assistance totaling almost a million dollars (\$991,871) at the meeting, set for 8:30 a.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Inn and Convention Center, West 414 Appleway.

The Board will also hold a work session Wednesday (Oct. 23) at the same location. Both meetings are open to the public; however, an executive session is planned for the October 24 meeting and is not open to the public.

The six financial requests include one from the Twin Lakes/Rathdrum Creek Flood Control District 17 for \$500,000 to replace the 96-year-old Twin Lakes Dam.

Flood Control District officials say the replacement is needed due to the dam's deteriorated condition, costly operation and maintenance and to prevent future flood damage.

The 13-feet-high dam is located on Rathdrum Creek at the outlet of Twin Lakes, about 3 miles upstream of Rathdrum. The dam raises the natural level of Twin Lakes to store and release water for flood control.

Other financial requests include:

 A grant/loan of \$25,115 for the Deep "Creek Property Owners Association (Boundary County near Bonners Ferry) to construct a well house and modify well piping and controls;

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- A grant of \$7,500 for the City of Priest River for a planning study of its water system;
- An increase of \$139,256 in an existing loan to the Wilderness Ranch Owners
 Association (Boise County south of Idaho City) for the construction of a new surface water treatment plant;
- A grant/loan of \$20,000 for the Malad Valley Irrigation Company (Oneida County near Malad) to conduct a feasibility study to evaluate options for replacing St. Johns Reservoir storage; and,
- A loan of \$300,000 to the Hoyt Bluff Water Association (Kootenai County southwest of Rathdrum) to construct a new well, a 60,000-gallon storage tank and to refinance an existing loan.

The Board also will hear reports on minimum stream flow applications and comprehensive state water planning efforts. Board members also will act on three proposed rules dealing with water supply bank operations, the underground injection well program and stream channel alteration rules.

The meetings will be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need assistance to attend, participate in or understand the meetings, please contact Rita Fleck, (208) 327-7880 in advance so arrangements can be made.